ATTACHMENT B
Amendments to the Claims

Following herewith is a complete listing of the claims, including a marked copy of the currently amended claims.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for offering alternative software, comprising:

scanning a computer system of a user to detect fee-based software residing on said computer system of the user;

determining an expiration date ~~for~~ of said fee-based software residing on the computer system; and

offering the user alternative software to the fee-based software based on the expiration date of the fee-based software.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting a message to a software vendor at predetermined time intervals prior to the expiration date, wherein the <u>fee-based</u> software ~~of the user~~ was not authored by the software vendor and is detected by a monitoring program.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of providing the monitoring program on at least one of the computer of the user, a computer network, and a computer of the software vendor.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, after the offering step, providing the alternative software to the user in response to receiving an affirmative response from the user.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising, after the offering step, in response to receipt of a negative response from the user, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

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7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the expiration date is determined by a monitoring program.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the monitoring program resides on the computer of the user and determines the expiration date by scanning at least one of: the files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with software, and an installation date of software.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises querying the user on the expiration date of software and the offering step is based on a response to the query.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising, after the offering step, in response to receipt of a negative response from the user, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing information detected from the software in a database, and customizing alternative software offers based on the information in the database.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the offering step comprises offering at least one of replacement software, complementary software, and supplementary software.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising detecting software characteristics selected from the group consisting of type of software, file types associated with the software, expiration date, frequency of use, and date of download or installation.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the offer of alternative software is based on the detected software characteristics.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
installing a monitoring program on the computer system of the user; and

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receiving notification of the expiration date of software on the computer system.

16.   (Previously Presented) A method for detecting fee-based software on a computer of a user and offering alternative software, comprising:

using a monitoring program installed on the computer of the user to scan the computer for fee-based software;

determining the expiration date of the software based on a software characteristic selected from the group consisting of type of software, files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with the software, frequency of use, and date of download or installation; and

offering at least one from the group consisting of replacement, complementary, and supplementary software, the offer being based on the software characteristics.

17.   (Currently Amended) A system for offering alternative software, comprising:

means for scanning a computer system of a user to detect fee-based software residing on said computer system of the user;

means for determining an expiration date for of said fee-based software residing on the computer system; and

means for offering the user alternative software to the fee-based software based on the expiration date of the fee-based software.

18.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, further comprising:

a monitoring program for detecting the fee-based software of the user; and

means for transmitting a message to a software vendor at predetermined time intervals prior to the expiration date;

wherein the software residing on the computer was not authored by the software vendor.

19.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the monitoring program resides on at least one of the computer of the user, a computer network, and a computer of the software vendor.

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20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for providing the alternative software to the user in response to an affirmative response from the user.

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for, responsive to receipt of a negative response from the user, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

23.   (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a monitoring program for determining the expiration date.

24.   (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the monitoring program resides on the computer of the user and is capable of determining the expiration date by scanning at least one of: the files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with software, and an installation date of software.

25.   (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for querying the user on the expiration date of software and the means for offering is adapted to offer alternative software based on a response to the query.

26.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, further comprising, means for, responsive to the receipt of a negative response, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

27.   (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a database for storing information detected from the software and means for customizing an alternative software offer based on the information in the database.

28.   (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the alternative software offers is at least one of replacement software, complementary software, and supplementary software.

29.   (Original) The system of claim 27, further comprising means for detecting software characteristics selected from the group consisting of type of software, file types associated with the software, expiration date, frequency of use, and date of download or installation.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, further comprising rules for the detected software characteristics, the rules forming the basis for the offer of alternative software.

31.   (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising:

means for installing a monitoring program on the computer system of the user; and

means for receiving notification of the expiration date of software on the computer system.

32.   (Previously Presented) A system for detecting fee-based software on a computer of a user and offering alternative software, comprising:

means for using a monitoring program installed on the computer of the user to scan the computer for fee-based software;

means for determining the expiration date of the software based on a software characteristic selected from the group consisting of type of software, files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with the software, frequency of use, and date of download or installation; and

means for offering at least one from the group consisting of replacement, complementary, and supplementary software based, the offer being on the software characteristics.

33.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium for offering alternative software having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

scanning a computer system of a user to detect fee-based software residing on the computer system of the user;

determining an expiration date for of the fee-based software residing on the computer system; and

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offering the user alternative software to the fee-based software based on the expiration date of the fee-based software.

34.   (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising performing the step of transmitting a message to a software vendor at predetermined time intervals prior to the expiration date wherein the fee-based software ~~of the user~~ was not authored by the software vendor and is detected by a monitoring program.

35.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising performing the step of providing the monitoring program on at least one of the computer of the user, a computer network, and a computer of the software vendor, wherein the software of the user was not authored by the software vendor.

36.   (Canceled)

37.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising, after the offering step, performing the step of providing the alternative software to the user in response to receiving an affirmative response from the user.

38.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising, after the offering step, in response to the receipt of a negative response from the user, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

39.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, wherein the expiration date is determined by a monitoring program.

40.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the monitoring program resides on the computer of the user and determines the expiration date by scanning at least one of: the files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with software, and an installation date of software.

41.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, wherein the determining step comprises querying the user on the expiration date of software, and the offering step is based on a response to the query.

42.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 41, further comprising, after the offering step, responsive to the receipt of a negative response from the user, renotifying the user of the offer for the alternative software at a specified time interval after the receipt of the negative response.

43.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising performing the steps of storing information detected from the software in a database and customizing alternative software offers based on the information in the database.

44.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, wherein the offering step comprises offering at least one of replacement software, complementary software, and supplementary software.

45.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 43, further comprising performing the step of detecting software characteristics selected from the group consisting of type of software, file types associated with the software, expiration date, frequency of use, and date of download or installation.

46.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the offering step is based on the detected software characteristics.

47.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, further comprising performing the steps of:
installing a monitoring program on the computer system of the user; and
receiving notification of the expiration date of software on the computer system.

48.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium for detecting fee-based software on a computer of a user and offering alternative software having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

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using a monitoring program installed on the computer of the user to scan the computer for fee-based software;

determining the expiration date of the software based on a software characteristic selected from the group consisting of type of software, files corresponding to registration of the software by the user, file types associated with the software, frequency of use, and date of download or installation; and

offering at least one from the group consisting of replacement, complementary, and supplementary software, the offer being based on the software characteristics.